

REMARKS

Drawing Amendments

Minor amendments have been made to Figures 1, 2, 3, 5 and 10, as set forth in the attached replacement sheets. These drawing amendments were made in a "Response to Written Opinion" filed on September 20, 2001 in the parent PCT application (International Application No. PCT/US00/27488) . The "Response to Written Opinion" was filed to correct defects noted in Part VII of the PCT Written Opinion of July 26, 2001. It is believed that the drawing amendments set forth in the "Response to Written Opinion" have not been entered into the parent application (Serial No. 10/071,402) of the present application.

For the Examiner's convenience, a set of Annotated Marked-Up Drawings with changes circled in red ink has been provided as Appendix A (Annotated Marked-Up Drawings). In Figure 1, reference numbers 183 (first end region of the hand grip 152), 184 (second end region of the hand grip 152), and 188 (internal spline teeth of first end region 183 of the hand grip 152) have been added. These reference numbers were recited in the specification but not shown in the drawings of the original PCT application.

In Figure 2, reference number 230 (tubular cylindrical guide member of knife connecting end assembly 224) has been added. Additionally, the lead line for flexible shaft 222 has been changed from solid line to dashed line because the flexible shaft would not be visible in Figure 2 as it is enclosed in flexible casing 220.

In Figure 3, the same changes were made as were made to Figure 2. Namely, reference number 230 has been added and the lead line for reference number 222 has been changed to dashed line.

As filed, Figure 5 included two instances of reference number 92. The second instance of reference number 92 has been changed to 90. Reference number 90 refers to the link 90 extending between knob 92 and link 94.

Figure 10 has been amended to include reference number 46a which corresponds to the housing body bearing face portion of the radially outer face 32b of the blade housing 32. This is in agreement with page 6, line 17 of the amended specification.

Amendments to the Specification

With regard to the amendments to the specification, these minor amendments were also originally made in the "Response to Written Opinion" filed on September 20, 2001 in the parent PCT application (International PCT Serial No. PCT/US00/ 27488). The "Response to Written Opinion" was filed to correct defects noted in Part VII of the PCT Written Opinion of July 26, 2001. It is believed that the amendments set forth in the "Response to Written Opinion" have not been entered into the parent application (Serial No. 10/071,402) of the present application.

On page 5, second paragraph, line 13, the reference number of the ring gear has been appropriately changed from 12a to 12b. On page 5, fourth paragraph, line 31, the reference number of the housing body bearing face

portion of the radially outer face 32b of the blade housing 32 has been changed from 46 to 46a because the semicircular cutout area of the blade housing 32 was assigned reference number 46 at page 5, line 15.

On page 6, line 17, the reference number of the housing body bearing portion has been similarly changed from 46 to 46a. On page 6, third paragraph, line 23, a matching parentheses has been added before "See Figures 1-5, 11 and 12)."

On page 7, second paragraph, line 22, a period has been inserted after the word "rotates" and on line 27, the double period after the word "position" has been changed to a single period.

On page 8, fourth paragraph, line 30, the reference number of the spring has been changed from 82 to 68.

Amendment to the Claims

Claims 1-9 have been cancelled. Claims 10 and 16 have been amended. Claims 10-18 are pending in the application.

CONCLUSION

Entry of this preliminary amendment prior to examination of the application is respectfully requested. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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